Treasury Department
April 8th 1836

Sir.

Please inform me, if in your power, when the Machinery for the New Orleans Branch Mint will be finished and ready for transmission.

I am, Sir, your mo: obt servt

Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury

Dr R M Patterson
Phil

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Mint of the United States
Philadelphia, Ap. 11, '36.

Sir,

I have just received your letter of the 8th, inquiring "when the Machinery for the New Orleans Branch Mint will be finished and ready for transportation?"

A Contract has been entered into with Mess. Rush & Muhlenburg, for executing and erecting the Steam-engine and Shafting for this Branch. The whole to be packed up and delivered at the Wharf in Philadelphia by the 1st day of Sept. next. To be thence transported by us to New Orleans. Then to be erected and put in complete working order by the Contractors on or before the 1st of Feb. 1837. The whole sum to be paid for this Contract is $20,250.

A contract has been entered into with Mess. Merrick, Agnew & Tyler, for five machines for cutting planchets, two draw benches, two machines for milling planchets, a pair of pointing rolls, and three Coining Presses, and a lathe & slides rest. To be delivered at the wharf here by the 1st of Sept. next, and to be erected at New Orleans, by the Contractors, within twelve weeks after its completion and

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notice given of the preparation of the building for its reception. The consideration for this contract is $15280.

A contract has been entered into with Matthias W. Baldwin, for six sets of Roller frames, with driving wheels &c, to be delivered here Sept. 1st, next, and to be erected at New Orleans by the last named contractors, with their own Machinery. The amount for this contract is $8,100.

These three contracts include all the machinery necessary for putting the Mint in operation. The whole amount of the contracts is $43,630, and the ~~time~~ of the contract time for the erection is not later than Feb. 1, 1837.—

Contracts have also been made for the Machinery for the Gold Mints at Charlotte and at Dahlonega, as follows.

With Mess. Coleman Sellers & Sons, for Steam Engine, Shafting & gearing, Rolling Machinery, Shears, and Milling Machine, for each Mint, and for putting up the whole machinery. Cost, for each Mint, ~~$80~~ $8297. The Machinery to be delivered here Sep. 1, 1836, and to be erected within twelve weeks after delivery at the respective Branches: the transportation to be made by us.

A contract has been made with Mess. Merrick, Agnew & Tyler, for making the Presses, (two for each), draw-benches, pointing rolls, and planchet cutters for the two Gold Mints. The cost for each to be $6690, and the Machinery to be delivered here by the 31st of December next. This Machinery is to be put up by the Contractors for the Steam-Engine &c; and I presume that these Branches can be set in operation about the same time as that at New Orleans.

Recapitulation.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Branch at New Orleans — | Rush & Muhlenberg, | 20,250 |
| | Merrick, Agnew & Tyler | 15,280 |
| | M. W. Baldwin | 8,100 |
| | | $43,630 |
| Branch at Charlotte — | Coleman Sellers & Sons, | 8297 |
| | Merrick, Agnew & Tyler | 6690 |
| | | 14,987 |
| Branch at Dahlonega — | The Same — | 14,987 |
| | Total for all the Branches | 73,604 |

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Mint of the United States
Philadelphia July 23.d 1836

Dear Sir,

Be so good as to inform me what is the present state of progress of the building for your Branch Mint, and particularly when you judge that it will be ready to receive the Machinery.

Mess. Rush & Muhlenburg, who have made the Steam engine and Shafting, and are to put up the rolling machinery, would be glad to commence their work as soon as the unhealthy season is over.

I shall take great interest in any information that you can give me on the subject of the tasks committed [to] you in New Orleans.

Most truly & respectfully
Yours

R. M. P.

To Gen Martin Gordon

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Treasury Department
Dec.r 8th 1836

Sir

As it is desirable to make the nomination to the Senate early in the Session, you will please recommend as soon as convenient, a suitable person for the situation of Coiner for the New Orleans Branch Mint

I am, very respectfully
Your Obt Servt

Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury

Dr R.M. Patterson
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

P.S. The following persons have been recommended as Coiners for the Branch Mints. T. J. Parker for the Georgia Branch. James Webb of Baltimore for either the Georgia or North Carolina Branch and J. T. Barclay for the New Orleans Branch.

I wish to know if you are acquainted with their qualifications, and if not, I wish you to inform me if you know

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know of any persons qualified for those situations. a reply to this communication by return of mail is requested.

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(Rough draft)

Memorandum of Agreement between James Hope of the city of New Orleans, Engineer machinist and Robert M. Patterson Esq. Director of the Mint of the United States on behalf of the U.S. dated the day of November A.D. 1836.

The said James Hope on his part hereby covenants with the said Robert M. Patterson & his successors in office to put up or cause to be put up in good working order, under his personal superintendence, in the Edifice of the Branch Mint at New Orleans, all the machinery intended for the same which is now making, or to be made, under the several contracts of Messrs Rush & Muhlenberg, Merrick & Agnew and M.W. Baldwin, including also the construction of the foundations of masonry and timber for the Engine and machinery, preparatory to the erection of the same. Provided, that the actual cost of such masonry and woodwork shall be defrayed by the United States. And the said James Hope further covenants to finish and complete this contract within or before the month of May 1837 ~~four months after the completion of all the machinery, and of the Edifice intended for its reception~~; unavoidable accidents and delay excepted. In consideration whereof, the said RMP on behalf of the United States covenants to pay the said James Hope ~~or~~ his ~~ex~~ exrs admrs or assigns, the sum of Six thousand four hundred dollars upon the final completion of the contract, or before that time in such proportions as that the amount paid shall not exceed 4/5ths the value of the work performed up to the date of such payment. The said sum being inclusive of all ~~ex~~ expenses whatever to be incurred in the foregoing contract, with the exception made in the above provision.

In Witness whereof the said parties have hereunto interchangeably set their hands & seals, and to a duplicate of the same, the day & year first above written.

In presence of {

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*in good order and well conditioned, by the* ~~[illegible]~~ Director OF THE ~~[illegible]~~ Mint UNITED STATES, *in and upon the good* Ship John Sergeant *whereof is Master for this present voyage* C. Van Dyke *and now in the river Delaware, and bound for* New Orleans

Two hundred eighty eight Boxes Bars and Bundles.

Boilers on deck at risk of Shippers

N:o 1 a) 27
M. & A.
B. M. N. O.

N:o 1 a) 261
B. M. N. O.

Frt $ 300
Prim 15
$ 315

*Being marked and numbered as in the Margin, and to be delivered in the like good order, and well conditioned, at the aforesaid Port of* New Orleans *(the danger of the Seas only excepted,) unto* Mathew Gordon Esq. Supt. Indn. B. M. N. O. *or to* his *Assigns; he or they paying Freight for the said Goods.*

**In Witness whereof,** *the Master or Purser of said* Ship *hath affirmed to* three *Bills of Lading, all of this Tenor and Date; one of which being accomplished, the others to stand void.*

PHILADELPHIA, December 8th 1836.
Not accountable for Breakage

for the Captain
James LeFevre

3

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Memorandum of Machinery for Coining Presses New Orleans Mint

| | |
|---|---|
| Box No 1 | Fly Wheels for Cutting Presses |
| " " 2 | do do |
| " " 3 | 9 Shafts & Shifting levers for do |
| " " 4 | Pullies for Cutting Presses |
| " " 5 | Chains for Drawing Presses |
| " " 6, 7 & 8 | Upright Frames for Cutting Presses |
| " " 9 | Platforms for Cutting Presses |
| 10, 11, 12, 13 & 14 | Five Cutting Presses |
| No 15 | Belts for Cutting Presses & Couplings for shafts |
| No. 16, 17, 18, 19 | Stands & chain Wheels for draw frames |
| 20 | Tongs & Saddle for draw frames |
| 21 & 22 | Draw frames & Rollers |
| 23 & 24 | A Lathe |
| 25 & 26 | Cutting Shears |
| 27 | Drawing heads for draw frames |

M & A

1 27
1 254
281
B N 20

Merrick & Agnew
New bill 9th & 10

M & A No

1 D 27
M & A

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Articles Shipped in the Geo. Sergeant for New Orleans, marked B. M. M. C

No. 1. 2. 3. 4. Wall Plates
5 Crank Shaft
6 Pendulum for Pump
7. 8. Frames for Cylinder
9. 10 Braces for frames
11. 12 Standards
13. Bed Plate
14. top plate for Columns
15. Plate & Pillar Block for Pendulum
16. 17. 18. 19 — four Pieces Steam Pipe
20. Steam Pipe
21. Do
22. Do
23. Do
24. Feed Pipe
25 Do
26 Do
27 Do
28 Do
29 Do
30. 31. 32 Furnace Mouths
33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40
41, 42 Fly Wheel Arms
43, 44, Fly Wheel Centres
45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52
53, 54, 55, 56, Fly Wheel Segments
57. 58 2 Small Shafts
59, 60, two Wall Plates
61, Force Pump

No. 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70
71, 72, 73, 74 Pillar Blocks
75, 76 two Headaments for upright Shafts
77, 78 two plates for ditto
79, 80, 81, 82 four Plates for the Short Columns
83, 84, top Plates for Large Columns
85, 86 Bottom plates for Column
87. Small Shaft
88, 89, 90, 91, four Cap plates for Columns
92, 93, 94, 95 four Couplings
96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103. Short Square Columns
104, 105, 106, 107, four pieces of Combings for floor
108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115 Large Columns
One plate plate not marked
116 Steam Cylinder
117, 118, 119, 120, 4 Studs
121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126 6 Wall plates
127. Valve Caught
128, 129, Spur Wheels
130, 131, 132, 133 Plumber Blocks
134, 135, 136, 137, Wall Plates
138. Box Containing Screw Bolts
139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145
146, Caps for Columns

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No
147. 148. Hangers
149. 150. 151. 152 153 Small
line Shafting
154. Pillar Blocks
155. 156 two Brackets
for upright Shaft
157. upp Shaft with Bevel
Wheel on
158. 159 two Small Shafts
for ditto
160. 161 two Steps for upright
Shaft
162. 163 two Braces for Slides
164. Cold Water Pump
165. 166. 167. three Columns
for the Boiler front
168. 169 two Beams for ditto
170. Bottom plate for Column
171. top plate for ditto
172. 173. 2 Boiler Beams
174. Bed Plate
175. Piston & Rod
176. 177. Drum heads
178. 179. two hangers
180. Mitre Wheel
181. 182. two Shafts for the
Rolling Mill
183. 184. two fly wheel Shafts
185. 186 two Boxes Containing
two upright Shafts
187. Box of Bolts
188. 189. 190. 191. 4 Boxes
Containing Brass Pillow Block
for the drawing bench Shaft
192 – One Anvil

No
193. Brass Bevel Wheel ×
194. Iron Bevel Wheel ×
195. Ditto ×
196. Iron Chain Wheel ×
197 – Ditto ×
198. Brass Bevel Wheel ×
199 Cylinder Caps & Bolts ×
200. 3. Iron Spur Wheels ×
201. Crosshead & Brasses ×
202. 203. two Country Shafts ×
which is above the fly
Wheel Shaft
– 90. Grate Bars
204. 205. Small Columns ×
206. 207. 208. Three Steam
Boilers
209. 4 Cast Iron Columns ×
210. Slides & Bolts ×
211. Box Containing Side
Rods. Cross head Eccentric
hook – four cut ends
one Plunger one Small
valve Rod & 2 Small Arms
212. Rock Shaft
213 Box Containing Screw
Bolts of different kinds
214. 215. Caps for Small
Columns
216. Connecting Rod ×
217. Ditto ×
218. 219. Cast Iron Shafts
220. Cast Iron Bevel Wheel ×
221. Ditto ×
222. Ditto ×
223. 224. 225 floor Plates

No
226. Box Containing Cone
Bolts
227. Box Containing Crank
Pins – Coupling links
Screw Bolts &c
228. 229 Wrought Iron
upright Shafts ×
230. Box Containing
fire Bars
231. 232 Mitre Spur
Wheels ×
233. Eccentric Straps ×
234. Throttle valve Safe-
ty valve Check valve
Bolts &c ×
235 Box Containing
fire Bars
236. Box Containing
Plunger. Lever. Bolt
Stub ends &c
237. Mitre Cog Wheel
238. Ditto ×
239. Step for upright
Shaft ×
240. Mitre Cog Wheel ×
241. Copper Pipes ×
242. Brass Column ×
Pump Rod Step &c
243 Box containing
Copper Pipes
244. One Bellows
245. Box containing Cog
Bevel Wheel
246. Ditto
247 Do

248. Ditto
249. Box Containing tools
250. Box Containing Wooden Stans
251 – Do
252 – Box Containing 8 Brass
Caps for Brass bevel Wheels
253 Box containing iron Braces
254 Keg of Patent Cement
255. 257. 257. 258, 259, 260
261 – 7 bars Wrought Iron

Rush & Muhlenberg
Bush Hill

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McK[?] this
tygraphy[?] for Mr Jacobs as for
an application for
the U.S. Mint.

New York le 13 Febry 1836

Messieurs!

Vous m'obligerez infiniment, en me faisant savoir le plutôt possible, s'il y a encore une place ouverte pour graver les matrices pour la monnaie. Il y a peu de temps, que je suis en Amérique et je vous prie de m'excuser pour cette raison, que ma lettre n'est pas conçue en votre langue. J'ai travaillé huit ans dans cette branche de la gravure seulement, et je suis en état de produire des épreuves de mes ouvrages dont le fini ne laisse pas grand chose à désirer. L'on me dit, qu'on va établir une Monnaie à Washington, la Nouvelle Orleans et autres villes, dont je vous prie de me dire par quelques lignes si vous pouvez faire usage de mes services

J'ai l'honneur

Messieurs,

d'être votre serviteur très humble

Ed. Hütsmann
graveur

Liberty street No. 30

RG104 Entry 11

Mint of the United States
Philadelphia, Dec. 18, 1836

Dear Sir,

I send you herewith a bill of lading of two hundred and eighty Boxes, Bars, & Bundles, shipped to you as Commissioner for the Branch Mint at New Orleans. They comprise nearly all the machinery for this Branch except the presses, which will be completed by the time that the other machinery is erected. I pray you to receive this machinery and to dispose of it with great care, in a situation where it will not be injured.

I have entered into a Contract with Mr. James Hope of your city, (now here,) for putting up, in complete working order, all the machinery for the Mint. I expect him to be in New Orleans by the time the John Sergeant is ready to unload, in which case he will save you all trouble in the matter.

I have been exceedingly anxious to know the State of your Building, and wrote to you to make inquiry on the subject

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as long ago as the 23d of July, but have not received any reply. I have just returned from a visit to Washington and I find them equally uninformed at the Treasury Department. Let me pray you to give me a statement, by return of Express mail that I may be able to mention introduce it into my annual report.

Very

Your

R. M. P.

Director

To/
Gen. Martin Gordon
Comt. Br. Mint
New Orleans

P.S. — I send the Bill Lading by the Ordinary mail. — When the articles are received you may draw on me for the amount of freight & primage, $315, and also for the expenses of porterage &c. As a Superintendent for your Mint is nominated to the Senate, it is probable, however, that this business will be transacted through him, as it does not properly belong to your duties.

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Treasury Department
December 19th 1836

Sir,

The enclosed application of Mr Edward Hubermann for employment as an Engraver in the Mint is respectfully submitted to you.

I am, Sir, respectfully
your obt Servant

Levi Woodbury
Secretary of Treasury

To,
Director Mint
Phila

RG104 Entry 11

## An Estimate of the Expenses of the Branch Mint at New Orleans, for the year 1837.

| | Dolls. | Dolls. |
|---|---|---|
| **For Salaries of Officers and Clerks.** | | |
| The Superintendent | 2500 | |
| The Treasurer | 2000 | |
| The Chief Coiner | 2000 | |
| The Assayer | 2000 | |
| The Melter and Refiner | 2000 | |
| Two Clerks, $ 1200 each | 2400 | 12,900 |
| Compensation to Labourers, in the various departments | | 13,000 |
| For completing the Mint Edifice | | |
| For furnishing the whole Establishment, inclusive of all apparatus, tools and fixtures not included in the contracts | 15,500 | 15,500 |
| **For Incidental and Contingent Expenses.** | | |
| Wastage of Gold and Silver | 8,000 | |
| For iron, steel, lead, castings, chemical agents, copper for alloy, zinc, oil, tallow, crucibles, melting pots, and repairs | 5,000 | |
| For wood & coal for Steam Engine and furnaces | 5,000 | |
| Stationary and fuel for the different Offices, water rent and taxes | 600 | 18,600 |
| | | $ 60,000 |

Mint of the United States,
Philadelphia, December 22. 1836

RG104 Entry 11

Washington — Dec. 27, '36.

Dear Sir,

Your letter of the 22d, with the accompanying estimates, was rec'd on the 24th, and, with the information which I have obtained at the Treasury department, will answer my objects, as well a total state of darkness as to the present condition of the N. Orleans Branch will permit. Nothing has been heard here, or with us, from Gen. Gordon, for months, though letters of inquiry have been sent from both places. Yet Gen. Gordon is in nomination as Superintendent of the N. O. Branch.

The $8000 drawn by me in May, on account of machinery, was, by mistake, debited to Gen. Gordon; so that the appropriation clerk [illegible] make mistakes.

The Contract for the N. O. Branch Mint building, — exclusive [illegible] our [illegible], and

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the weighing &c. for the enclosure, is $182,000.

Appropriations stand good until the expiration of the second calendar year after they are made; so that the appropriations made in 1835, may be used till Dec. 31, 1837.

Please send to Col. Benton, — as by my directions, — an account of any small gold pieces (about a dollar) known to be coined. Kelly will help you out, as to ancient or old coins; but I think modern more germaine to the matter.

Write word to me, what have been the prices pr lb. of copper planchets, every year from 1792, if you can conveniently. Thinking I can give all other information required.

Please send the enclosed letters to their destinations.

Tell Mr. Peale I have recd. his letter of the 26th, and noted its contents carefully.

Very truly Yours,

R. M. Patterson.

Tomorrow I hope that our Mint-bill will be again brought before the Committee of the Whole, and the House; in which case I will write again to-morrow evening.

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New Orleans 27th December 1836

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th Instant, It was received too late to be answered by the return Express Mail.

In compliance with your request, to be furnished with a "Statement of the present condition of the building, intended as a Branch of the Mint of the United States at this place, the probable time of the completion of the part under Contract &c &c; I make the following Statement, which is, respectfully submitted.

The Center building, and one of the Wings are so far advanced, as to be nearly ready for the reception of the Machinery, but little, if any delay will be experienced on its arrival, in putting it up, indeed that part of the building, intended to contain the Engine and Machinery of the Mint cannot be completed till the whole is arranged and put up,

You will perceive, on reference to the Contract (a certified Copy of which I had at a very early period transmitted to the Secretary of the Treasury, who no doubt has furnished you with a Copy) that the Machinery, and the whole of the building could not be finished for the sum appropriated by Congress, say $200,000, consequently one of the Wings was excluded until the further order of Government, with a view to an additional appropriation for its completion. The part now finished, or nearly so, will be sufficient to go on with the operations of the Mint upon a confined scale. I apprehend, however, that but a temporary inconvenience can be experienced by the officers of the Mint, till the other Wing is finished, which will then make the Edifice complete, according to the plan approved by the Secretary of the Treasury. It must however be observed, that the approval was confined, as respects the expenditure, to the appropriation made by Congress.

It will be further observed that, the Contract entered into, to complete the whole building, amounts to $182,000. The cost of the Engine and Machinery was estimated at $50,000; under these Circumstances it was considered to the interest of the Government, to go on, with only a part of the building, get the establishment into operation at as early a day as

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possible, and apply to Congress for a further appropriation, in order to make the establishment complete in all its parts.

That part which is now nearly finished, will cost, under the Contract $142,000: $71,000 of that amount have already been paid to the Contractors, and I have, under date of the 15th Instant made a requisition on the Secretary of the Treasury, for the further sum of $71,000 with a view to complete the full payment of the Contract.

When the whole Edifice is completed, it will be conveniently calculated for the operation of the Mint, and the accommodation of all its Officers, with the exception of the Superintendent. In the plan, and by the distribution of the different apartments, it never was intended that the Superintendent should reside in the building. but if suitable accommodations can be conveniently appropriated, I know of no good reason why he should be excluded.

You will also perceive from the Contract, that the Wing of the building, suspended for the present, or till the further order of the Government, will cost $40,000, this sum together with about an equal amount will be required to complete the Edifice in all its parts, and permit me, Respectfully, to suggest the propriety of making an early application to Congress for an additional appropriation of about $75. to $80,000, with a view, and for the purpose of completing the same.

On the arrival of the Ship John Sergeant from Philadelphia, I will, with great satisfaction attend to the receipt of the different articles shipped on board of that vessel and intended for the Mint at this place, and see that they be all safely deposited in the building, and in the absence of the Superintendent take especial care of them until his appointment is received, when they will, as a matter of course be delivered to him.

I will write by this mail to the Secretary of the Treasury, and enclose him a Copy of this communication, and will at the same time request to be discharged from any further agency in this business.

With great respect and esteem
I have the honor to be, Sir
your obt Servant
Martin Gordon Sr.

To R M Patterson Esqr
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

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Washington — Dec. 28, 1836.

Sir,

I send you herewith my estimates for the Expenses of the Branch Mints for 1837; prepared with great care in consultation with the Officers of the Mint. Some explanations are however proper.

1. <u>New Orleans Branch</u>. The salaries for the whole year are given, though it is not probable that they can all be drawn. — The wages of labourers are estimated at $90 per month, for twenty workmen, from June 1st to Dec. 31st. The other contingent expenses are taken upon the supposition that two millions will be coined there in the seven months of labor, taking into consideration also the ~~unusual~~ high prices of materials at that place.

The appropriations for the building and machinery for the New Orleans Branch was $200,000. The contract price for putting up the building, exclusive of one wing and the enclosing of the lot is $182,000; and the contract price for machinery is $43,630; making together 225,630, being $25,630 above the appropriation. I have no accurate means of estimating the cost of putting up the remaining wing of the building (as not tendered), but I presume it may be set down at one-third of ~~that is~~ already that now built or building, that is at $60,667. The railing around the lot, which is large, will not cost less than $10,000, making altogether, with the deficit

above mentioned $96,297; which sum I have accordingly, under the head "for completing the Mint Edifice, and enclosing the lot" [illegible] to the sum of $96,500.

2. The Gold Branches. The contracts for the Charlotte ~~Mint~~ Branch were lower than those for the Dahlonega Branch, and hence the reason for the difference in the amounts of the estimates now presented. I have estimated for five labourers (the legal limit) at each Branch, for six months work, and at $30 per month each. The supposed coinage at each mint is half a million, on which the wastage &c. is based.